

PROCLAMATION

BY THE

Governor of the State of Texas

41-2566

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 14 of the Texas Constitution, I, Ann W. Richards, Governor of Texas, do hereby veto S.B. 555 because of the following objections:

This bill allows the creation of a single health care service plan that covers only substance abuse and mental health treatment. By law, a single health care service plan can include coverage for only one health care need. Substance abuse and mental health are not a single health care need. Collapsing these two different health conditions into a single category for the purpose of insurance could result in inappropriate diagnosis and treatment.


S.B. 555 may cause employers or individuals to have to buy two separate health insurance policies - one to cover substance abuse and mental health services and a second to cover all other health needs.

This bill also allows group model health maintenance organizations affiliated with a state medical school to decide what health services they will cover and to ignore mandated coverages required for all other health insurance plans in Texas. People insured through such HMO's would not be assured of the same range of insurance coverage guaranteed to people enrolled in other health insurance plans.

The Secretary of State will take notice of this action and will notify the members of the Legislature.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto signed my name officially and caused the Seal of the State to be affixed hereto at Austin, this 19 day of June, 1993.

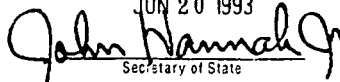



Ann W. Richards
Governor of Texas

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE

10:10 p.m. O'CLECK

JUN 20 1993


John Hannah
Secretary of State